

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER COVID-19



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

COVID-19 Joint Information Center Update

Frederick, MD – April 7, 2020

Health Department:

The Health Department is now reporting 151 reported confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 and 4 deaths. We are receiving more cases daily and our staff are talking with each person to confirm important information as part of the case investigation process. At this time, we have 38 additional cases we are currently investigating. For more information, please visit health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus.

Animal Control:

Plan Ahead Now

- If you are an animal owner, the time to make an emergency plan for your pets is now. Have a list of family members, friends, neighbors or a local boarding facility to safely care for you pets if you are not able. Keep Veterinary records and medical information readily accessible with a supply of food and medications. In an emergency, the Animal Control Center should be a last resort to house your pets.
- Officers are currently responding to priority calls. Animal Control Officers are on duty 7 days a week from 7 am to 9 pm. Phone (301) 600-1544 to speak with an Officer, file a complaint or for further information.
- For an animal related emergency, phone (301) 600-1603 or 911 at any time. From 9 pm to 7 am the following morning, Officers are available to assist with animal related emergencies only.

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Pet Food Bank

The Pet Food Bank is available to any resident of Frederick County. In response to COVID-19, normal financial need restrictions have been lifted. Call 301-600-1546 for more information.

Donations

While Animal Control Offices continue to be closed to the public and adoptions have been suspended, they are still accepting donations of unopened pet food and cat litter only. There is an outdoor donation bin at the rear of the building with the smaller bin designated for pet food items. Donations can be dropped off anytime as staff check it throughout the day.

Animal Control is grateful for a generous, compassionate community and is still accepting cash donations through our website:

https://www.velocitypayment.com/client/frederickcountymd/donations/index.html or by mailing checks to 1832 Rosemont Avenue, Frederick, MD 21702.

Frederick Health Hospital:

Testing continues through our curbside service at Toll House. Frederick Health Hospital has updated COVID-19 testing criteria:

- 1. Experiencing flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, or shortness of breath) AND within 14 days of experiencing symptoms:
 - Had close contact (less than 6ft) with a person confirmed to have COVID-19, or,
 - Had close contact (less than 6ft) with a person being tested for COVID-19.
 - Recently traveled in the last 14 days by plane, cruise, or train.
 - A healthcare worker or first responder.
 - At high risk due to age (over 65).
 - A history of cancer, diabetes, heart, lung, autoimmune, chronic kidney or liver disease.
 - Are pregnant or have delivered in the last two weeks.
- 2. Reported fever and cough or shortness of breath, AND:
 - Recently traveled in the last 14 days, or
 - Had secondary contact with a person confirmed to have COVID-19, or
 - At high risk due to age or chronic health conditions.

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Frederick Health has created two charitable funds in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Frederick Health COVID-19 Hospital Support Fund enables the public to provide financial resources to help the hospital respond to critical operating needs during the COVID-19 crisis.

The Frederick Health COVID-19 Employee Relief Fund enables the public to provide financial assistance to our employees who are experiencing a personal financial hardship due to the COVID-19 crisis. Frederick Health employees can continue to support fellow employees in need through the Angel Fund, an internal employee-to-employee assistance fund established in 2009. Contributions to both COVID-19 funds can be made online at www.frederickhealth.org/donatenow or by mailing a check to Frederick Health Development Office, 405 W. 7th St, Frederick, MD 21701.

Those interested in donating supplies can visit the Frederick Health Development Council Facebook page, for the most recent needs. More information can be found here: https://www.frederickhealth.org/Patients-Visitors/Coronavirus-COVID-19-/COVID-19-Donations.aspx Current needs are:



COVID-19 Relief In-Kind Donation Wish List

- Gloves
- · Hand sanitizer, antibacterial cleaning supplies
- · Lysol disinfecting spray
- · Protective gowns, coveralls, rain ponchos
- Phone chargers cable & wall block (all types)
- UV light boxes for sanitizing cell phones
- N95 masks
- · Handmade mask covers
- · "No Touch" thermometers
- · Disposable stethoscopes
- · Disposable pulse oxygen monitors
- · Protective eye wear (goggles)
- Disposable food storage containers
- · Paper or Styrofoam bowls

Items may be delivered to the Frederick Health Development Office between the hours of 9 am and 4 pm Monday – Friday. There is no need to contact the Development Team ahead of time.

Frederick Health Development Office 405 W. 7th Street Frederick, MD 21701

(located directly across the street from the hospital)
Email donate@fmh.org with any questions.





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Office of Economic Development:

The Office of Economic Development has created a website with resources for businesses: http://www.discoverfrederickmd.com/covid-19. Among the many resources found there, you will also find the "Business Financial Tool", which puts information for the various loan and grant programs all in one place.

TransIT:

Beginning on Thursday, April 9th, TransIT Services of Frederick County is mandating all TransIT passengers to wear a mask or facial covering in order to board a TransIT vehicle to further prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Frederick County. A mask or facial covering can include one of the following; a surgical mask, a homemade mask, scarf, or piece of clothing used to cover one's mouth and nose. Passengers failing to comply will be denied TransIT service.

Please remember to only use TransIT for ESSENTIAL TRAVEL ONLY. Essential travel means taking trips to work, hospitals, health care/pharmacies, grocery stores/food, banks, to provide care for family members, and other similar destinations. By reducing unnecessary travel, TransIT becomes safer for those who depend on it, especially essential healthcare workers, and for those who operate it. While on board TransIT vehicles, please comply with the CDC's social distancing recommendation of no fewer than six feet of separation.

For more information on TransIT's plan in response to COVID-19 and TransIT's services available in Frederick County, please visit our website at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/transit or call 301-600-2065.

Visit Frederick:

The **FY21 TRIPP** program application deadline is now being extended to May 15, 2020. In response to the unprecedented disruption to 2020 hotel business caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Visit Frederick will accept two rounds of applications in FY21. Applicants who may have concerns about their ability to provide matching funds for all of FY21 will only have to commit at this time to a portion of what they may hope to have for the full fiscal year. Visit Frederick will be in a better position to project what hotel revenue may be expected to be allocated toward the second round of TRIPP awards in December 2020. Applications for the first six months of FY21, will be for the timeframe of July 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020 due May 15, 2020. The second round of applications will be for the timeframe of January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021 due mid-November, 2020. For more information visit: https://www.visitfrederick.org/partners/tourism-grants/tripp/deadline-extended/

For more information:

Frederick County residents can call 866-411-6803 to reach our local 211 center with general questions about coronavirus or COVID19. Accurate COVID-19 information is critical to the community. For the most current and accurate information about this situation, please refer to the following:

- Frederick County Government: www.frederickcountymd.gov/Coronavirus
- Frederick County Health Department: health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus
- City of Frederick: //cityoffrederickmd.gov/covid19
- Maryland Department of Health (MDH): coronavirus.maryland.gov
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC): <u>coronavirus.gov</u>